

A  
V I E W  
O F  
*London and Westminster:*  
O R, T H E  
T O W N S P Y.

CONTAINING

An Account of the different C U S T O M S,  
T E M P E R S, M A N N E R S, P O L I C I E S, &c.  
of the P E O P L E in the several most  
noted Parishes within the Bills of Mor-  
tality respectively.

Wherein the  
FOLLIES and VICES of the *ENGLISH*,  
*WELCH*, *SCOTCH*, *FRENCH*, and  
*IRISH* Inhabitants, (and more particularly  
the last) are justly Exposed.

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*By a German* G E N T L E M A N.

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L O N D O N:

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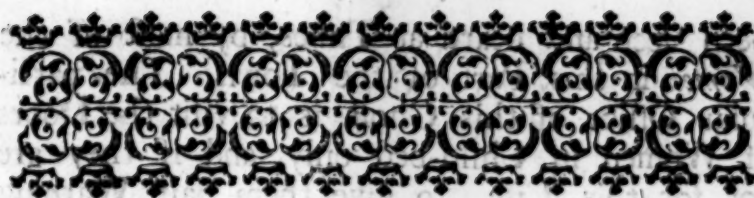
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A  
**V I E W**  
 OF  
**LONDON and WESTMINSTER:**  
 OR, THE  
**TOWN SPY, &c.**



**H**E Parish of *St. MARGA-  
 RET* in *Westminster* is said to  
 consist of a great Number of *Ro-  
 man Catholicks*: I am the rather  
 inclin'd to believe it, when I con-  
 sider the foolish Opinions retain'd  
 this Way. The People here, it seems, are ex-  
 treme cautious of being out too late at Night,  
 because of the squeaking Woman, call'd *Long  
 Margery*, who is a great Haunter of this Pa-  
 rish. This Apparition (as the Tradition saith,)  
 appears in various Shapes and Forms, and has  
 been

been seen and heard at Times, by most of the *Women* in this Part of the Town. The particular Office of this Ghost is to visit the Doors of *Women* in Child-bed only, and if they are not for this Life, to give them fair Warning by *three loud Shrieks*; and if a *Midwife* or a *Nurse* do but report they have heard any thing like this, though the *Woman* shall be in the most happy Way of Recovery, the *Husband* would be thought worse than an *Infidel*, if Preparations are not immediately made for his *Wife's* Funeral. I have heard that it would be as difficult to persuade these People out of this Notion, as it would be the *Foot Guards* out of their *Tobacco* and *Geneva*, so strongly are they confirm'd in it. There goes likewise a Story of another Apparition, and that is the good Lady *D—c—re*, who, they say, takes a Pride in riding about the Streets at Midnight in a Chariot, with the Footmen, Horses, and the rest of her Retinue without their Heads, and has been seen by *Thousands*. I have been told of an *Irish* Gentleman, who was so disturb'd and terrify'd, at the Report of the Appearance of this strange Spectre, that he apply'd to a Justice of the Peace for his Warrant, to get her Ladyship taken up. Nay, an honest *Bookseller* of my Acquaintance in *Westminster-hall*, who shall be nameless, has assur'd me, that this Place is so haunted, that both he and his Wife, who were born in the Night, and are apter to perceive Things of this Nature than other People, plainly beheld one Evening just about duskish the Apparition of the *Marque la Polironise*, a Cornet kill'd in the *French* Army at *Hochstedt*, (making an Attempt to steal down the Colours and Standards as hang up in the Hall, in Memory

mory of that Battle; but that the Shop-keepers being alarm'd, and Monsieur finding himself discover'd, he vanish'd away after the *French Field Fashion*.

DURING the Recess of Parliament and the Courts of Justice, the Trades-people here are the most complaisant and obliging, of any in the Town. I have seen an hundred Courtesies dropt for the Sale of a nine-penny Night-cap; and a pair of Gloves of fourteen Pence purchase, sent home in a very decent Manner as far as *White-Chappel*. In this Season it is esteem'd the best Parish in *London* for the studious and contemplative, a Cat being assoon to be seen in a Cathedral, or a *Lawyer* at an Evening Lecture, as a *hackney Coachman* in either of the *Palace-Yards*; these tumultuous Birds, like Swallows in the Winter, taking their Flight to kinder Climates; and 'tis a common Observation that for the first Day of a Session of *Parliament*, or of a *Term*, there is more Joy express'd in *Westminster-hall*, than there is in the *Gate-house* for an Act of Grace.

THIS Parish is remarkable for the Residence it gives to a great Number of brave, honest, idle, loyal Fellows, who, to do 'em Justice, would gladly work, if they had it. These Gentlemen are generally visible in a Morning at *Young Man's* and the *Tilt-Yard*, raking in the News Papers for *Apprehensions*, *military Preparations*, *Ruptures*, &c. But on the bare Mention of a *Plenipo*, they appear as simple as a Citizen in the *drawing Room*, or a Maid the Morning after Marriage, that Term being full as terrible, as a *Writ* from the *Marshals Court*; for the one curtails their Subsistence, as the other abridges their

**Liberty:** Two valuable Privileges belonging to *Englishmen*.

IN the Fields of this Parish stands a famous *Factory* for Hemp, which is wrought with greater Industry than ordinary, because the Manufacturers often enjoy the Fruits of their own Labour, a Privilege not to be boasted of in many other Countries; though, by the Way, great Numbers of *English* Gentlemen have here a Restraint put upon their Liberties; and for no other Reason than a free Exercise of their Properties, which, I know, has given no small Offence to divers of the Friends of our excellent Constitution.

THIS Part of the Town often leads me into the *Park*, where I have with Pleasure beheld the Bravery and Intrepidity of the Officers of the *English* Army. I know a Gentleman, who, when he was upon the Point of being admitted into *Scarlet*, it was queried amongst the *Core*, whether he was duly qualified, because he happened to be born without a *Sash*, till he gave the Person, who first objected it, a most convincing Proof of his Capacity, to serve his Country in a military Way. This very Gentleman have I seen charge a whole Batallion of *Foot* on the *Parade*, with no other Weapon than an oaken Plant, whereby many a brave Fellow has drop'd, and he is now alive and well; tho' not many Years ago, there was an *Officer* who had a Ball sent Express thro' his *Peruke*, for being something too venturesome that Way.

THE daily Disposition of the several *Guards* and *Garrisons* is a Sight worthy the Observation of a Foreigner. The Guard that marches to *St. James's*, may well enough be stild the *Broom*

of



of the *Park*, for sweeping away the idle *Rubbish* of the Town, which litters the *Parade* every Morning. The Musick with which this Guard is usually attended, has broken the Bands of Friendship between many a Journeyman *Shoe-Maker* and his Master; and I have known a Man of Quality stand cursing himself a full Hour together for his *Peruke*, on this Account; and a Letter which has required the utmost Dispatch, kept Pace with the red heel'd Shoes of a Colonel. Hence it is, that such Numbers of Apprentices get their Heads broke, and the News Papers crouded with Advertisements of Run-aways. I believe, that if this Mirth was to be practised through the City, the People at *St. James's* would soon have a fine Consort about their Ears; and perhaps the Town filled too with *Petitions* and *Protests*.

*ST. JAMES'S* in *Westminster* has a very large Share of the Nobility and Gentry, yet a Person of an indifferent Rank, may find a vacant Seat in the Church on the Sabbath. The Quality, who fly about here with their sumptuous Equipages, imagine themselves to be the Admiration of the Vulgar Sort. On the contrary, they are the only Objects of their Ridicule, they being too well acquainted with their most private Affairs. Most of the Quality judging themselves secure, in their more secret Vices, from the seeming Ignorance of those about 'em; when it is notorious, that a lousing, awkwardly Fellow, with a West Country Countenance, whom no Body would suspect no more than the Devil, shall carry off the whole Conversation of a Tea-Table, and report it *Verbatim* to half the Ale-Houses  
in

in Town. A Man of Quality's Letters to a Matron upon the Subject of a Girl, or to his Mistress, are frequently expos'd to one Third of the Parish, before they reach Directions. Wax and Wafers, being but trifling Obstacles to these penetrating People's Curiosities: Their constant Method being to furnish themselves with Matter of Reproach against their *Masters* and *Mistresses*, the better to prevent a Dismission, else how should it happen, that so many *Valets* and *Grooms*, are daily provided for; and so many *pert taunting Husseys* continued in their Places, upon Foot of not the least Merit, but that of their being capable to furnish Matters for a new *Atalantis*, out of the several Families they are entertained in.

DURING the late War with *France*, the Industry of that Court was such, that its Agents found Means to corrupt most of the *Valets* and *Footmen* of our prime Nobility; and indeed it was a Stratagem as surpriz'd all *Europe*; for by this Method they arriv'd at an early Knowledge of many material Occurrences. At *Paris* I have been assur'd, that the Discovery of the *Dunkirk* Plot was owing to the Perfidy of a *Scotch* Nobleman's running Footman, however it happen'd, that a certain great *English* Lady came to be so industriously and falsely aspers'd on that Account; and I have since had a more favourable Opinion of the late Elector of *Bavaria*, for I remember our Camp in *Flanders* swarmed with these Varlets at that Time. There are few but know that the Treaty of *Utrecht*, was publicly talk'd of in the late Lord *Bolingbroke's* Kitchen, long before Monsieur *Mefnager* landed with the Preliminaries at *Dover*; and that the Pretender's



der's residing at *Somerset-House Incog.* in the Year of *Peace*, was blabbed out by one of the Duke d' *Aum—nt's* Postillions. That remarkable Intrigue, carried on in a Person of Quality's House, near *Hanover-Square*, had been apparently known to all the *Grooms* and *Footmen* in Town, many Months before the *Lady's* Father or Mother had the least Suspicion of the Affair; and when it did at length come to their Knowledge, the Discovery was owing to an Accident two memorable to be forgotten.

THE greater Distance the Quality keep their lesser Servants at, these Sort of Matters are the farther kept from their Knowledge; though I know some prudent Families, who are never without their Agents for the Affairs below Stairs; but these are generally blown and hated, and oftentimes fall in with the Measures of the *Kitchen*; and then make but an insignificant Report to the *Chamber*.

THERE'S nothing more common in this Part of the Town, than for People of Quality and Rank, to receive *Reverences* and *Smiles*, with other Tokens of Familiarity, from Persons they never heard of, or beheld before. I was once walking in the *Mall* with a Gentleman, who about half an Hour before, had commenced an Acquaintance with me at a little Coffee-House within the *Verge*: His Name, as I remember, was *Mac Shuffle*, by the Token he took a Glas of *Usquebagh* at the Bar, and threaten'd to pay for it when he returned. There passed before us a Nobleman vested with a *blue Garter*; and his Servants, I observed, were worried about by the People, to know *what Duke it was*, tho' he happen'd to fall two Degrees below that Dignity.

nity. Mr. *Mac Shuffle* begs my Pardon for a Moment, and stept up very eagerly to his *Lordship*, and makes him the most obsequious Bow; some Civilities passed, but I was at too great a Distance to learn the Subject of their Conference, which lasted about a Minute and an half, when Mr. *Mac Shuffle* returned, and acquaints me, that he had given his *Lordship* an Invitation to the Seat of his Family in *Berkshire*, to sell a Brace, or two, of *Pheasants*, and breathe their Air for a Week or so, upon the Score of a very long and intimate Acquaintance between them. At present I was neither able to credit or discredit him: But he meeting with two other *Berkshire* Gentlemen of his Acquaintance, I obtained my Enlargement; and applying my self to one of the *Earl's* Footmen, I desired he would satisfy my Curiosity so far, as to inform me, what really pass'd between his Master and my Friend. The Fellow readily told me, that the poor Gentleman, speaking low to his Lord, told him, *He was in the utmost Distress, and begged his Lordship to give him an Opportunity to lay before him a more particular Account of his Misfortunes and Poverty, in order to his Charity.*

ST. *A N N E* in *Soho*. King CHARLES II. of pious Memory, was a great Benefactor to this Parish; for soon after the Plague in *London*, he re-peopled it with ten thousand Protestant Families, who prov'd the most implacable Enemies the late *French* King ever had; their Zeal against the grand Monarch was such, that upon the News of his losing of a Battle, or a Town, many of them would willingly have made Bonfires of their own Bodies, had they been but of a proper Consistency,

fistency. *Ragousts*, *Soupes*, and *Fricasies*, are mightily talk'd of this Way; and the *true born English* here, are the most gay in their outward Appearance of any People in *London*, a *pauper Dress* being esteemed a dreadful *Impiety*, and to appear in such at the Church is thought a Profanation of the Sabbath. Here's a certain great *Lady*, who, because the Keys of her *strong Box* have been missing ever since the *South-Sea* was at *High-water*, runs the Hazard of D—m——n.

ONCE, on a Sabbath Day, I was requested to dine with a *Shopkeeper* in this Parish; the Man's Income, I believe, might amount to about seventy Pounds *per Annum*, and his Family consisted of one Wife and a Daughter of about eighteen; they were extraordinary Oeconomists, *brew'd* their own Beer, *wash'd* at home, made a *Joint* hold out two Days, and a *Shift* three; let three Parts of their House ready furnish'd, and kept paying one Quarter's Rent under another. In such like Circumstances had they gone on for some Years, and the worst the World could say of them was, *That they liv'd above what they had, that their Daughter was as proud a Slut as ever clapt Clog on Shoe Leather, and that they entertained Lodgers as were no better than they should be.* This, one would think, is a pretty tolerable Sort of a Character, considering how Characters and Neighbourhoods go now a-Days; for if that a Family would live devoid of these Sort of Reflexions, they must shut themselves up in an *Inn of Court*, where the Husband runs the Hazard of being *horn'd* every Day of his Life; so that according to the Proverb, *There's never a good Conveniency*, &c. My Orders were not to exceed half an Hour past twelve, the Time the

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Pen usually returns the People on the Hands of the Parish, and the time their Dinner seldom fail'd of being on the Table. I was so punctual, that we all met together at the Door, the good Folks from the Church, and I from the *Rummer*. Mrs. Mary and her Mother, had no sooner enter'd the House, but the poor People (I shall never forget them) both burst out into a lamentable Flood of Tears: I apprehended they had been deeply touch'd by some edifying Discourse; but their Dolor soon appear'd to be upon a very different Occasion: It seems they had beheld at Church, a *proud trolloping Minks*, their opposite Neighbour, who sat insulting the whole Parish, in a *charming Sattin Suit*, &c. a *charming lac'd Head*, &c. a *charming*, &c. Thus Mother and Daughter run on with a Catalogue of this Lady's Fineries, and wonder'd *how the Devil she did to do it*, the Husband being but a Retailer of Beer and Beer, and had not finger'd a Farthing of the Poor's Money, he having not, as yet, arriv'd to the Dignity of *Church-warden*. Poor Molly continu'd bewailing their hard Fate, crying, *She must go like no Body*, or like an *Up-holsterer's Daughter*, and be taken for the Parish Ensign, as bearing on her Back the Remnant of half the People's Window Curtains.

I can never pass through *Cranburn-Alley*, but I am astonish'd at the Remissness or Lenity of the Magistrates, in suffering the *Pretender's* Interest to be carry'd on, and promoted in so publick and shameful a manner as it there is. Here a Fellow stands eternally bawling out his *Pye-corner* Pastorals in behalf of *Dear Femmy*, *Lovely Femmy*, &c. I have been credibly informed this Man has actually in his Pocket a Commission under the  
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*Pretender's* great Seal, constituting him his *Ballad-finger* in Ordinary in *Great-Britain*; and that his *Ditties* are so well worded, that they often poison the Minds of many well-meaning People; that this Person is not more industrious with his Tongue in behalf of his Master, than others are at the same time busy with their Fingers among the Audience; and that the Monies collected in this manner, are most of those mighty Remittances the *Post-Boy* so frequently boasts of being made to the *Chevalier*.

*St. MARTIN's in the Fields* is at present at fixes and at sevens, by reason their Parish-Church is in such Hands, as God knows when it will get out of them; in the mean time the Inhabitants are supply'd with a decent Tabernacle, which can produce as handsome a Shew of *White-bands*, *Diamond-rings*, pretty *Snuff-boxes*, and gilt *Prayer-Books* as any Cathedral whatsoever; here the fair Penitents pray in their Patches, sue for Pardon in their Paint, and see their Heaven in Man. The Officers of this Parish are said to be generally more corpulent than any in the *Liberty*, which is thought to be owing, in a great Measure, to the fruitful Adventures of the vast Number of *Milliners* and *Chamber-maids* within their Jurisdiction. A certain *Scotch Colonel* was formerly a great Benefactor this Way, but Age and Infirmities having advanc'd very briskly upon him, his Loins have failed. These are esteem'd a People of universal Goodness and Charity; and 'tis not long since they gave a remarkable Instance of it to the Parish of *Kensington*, from whence they transferr'd an *Ill Job*, and took the Sin and Shame upon themselves, tho', by the way, there

was a worthy *Baronet*, who indefatigably labour'd to clear the Parish of the *Guilt*.

THE *Malt Duty* is no where better promoted than in this Part of the Town; the Gentlemen of the most illustrious Order of the *Shoulder-knot*, esteeming the first Meal to be the most conducive to Health and long Life of any in the Day. I have seen a Nobleman's *Porter* fairly swallow two Gallons of Stale-beer for his Breakfast; and a brawny *Ale-Wife*, ready to rend down her Brothel, with roaring for whole Tuns of *Six-threads*, or *Devil come stitch me*, as they call them, to be hurried over to Gentlemens Houses for their *Footmens* Repast at Five in a Morning; and a Company of *Chairmen* and *Coachmen*, shall drive down as large Quantities of *Two-penny* and Kitchen Reversions, at a Breakfast, as would fairly subsist fifty *French Families* in *Spittle-Fields*, for a Fortnight.

St. *GILES's in the Fields*, is a most wealthy and populous Parish, and is said to furnish His Majesty's Plantations in *America* with more Souls than all the rest of the Kingdom besides. 'Tis very rare that the *Executioner* fails of being a Native as well as an Inhabitant hereof. Of the lower Sort there go two just Proverbs, viz. *St. Giles's Breed, Better to hang than feed; fat, ragged and sawcy*, as abounding in *Pedlars, Fish-women, News-cryers*, and *Corn-cutters*. I am very much concerned for the Gentlemen in the Commission of the *Peace* here, who enjoy but a slender Share of that Blessing themselves, being worn out in determining and healing the Breaches as continually happen among these various Species of People. But I am told, that thro' the Diligence of Messieurs *Wild* and *Ketch*, a good deal of Trouble



ble is taken off their Hands in *Lewk—rs Lane, Park—s Lane, St. Thom—s's Street*; and that a Person may now venture to travel thro' at Mid-day without Pistols.

THERE goes a Story of a certain Gentleman in this Parish, who is modestly computed worth three *Plumbs*, that this Person has often stood amaz'd at the *extravagant* Disposition of Providence, in possessing the Human Species with two such *expensive* Appetites, as Drinking and Eating; and has more than a thousand times wish'd himself translated into an *Heifer*, that he might have fed *Gratis* upon some *Common*. In these Sentiments has he liv'd, or rather starv'd, for above 70 Years; and no Man can be more truly said to have subdued his Passions, than himself. A *Flesh-monger* his Neighbour, had kept a watchful Eye upon him for some Years, hoping that he might still prove good for something one Day or other, till he was certainly informed, the old Gentleman had many Years ago, disposed of his Body to an *Anatomist*, for a valuable Consideration; so that whenever his Demise happens, he may avoid the Expences of a Funeral.

ON the Borders of this Parish is situated that antient and venerable Spot the *Hundred of Drury*, which, I hear, is the Property of two or three Parishes more: There are reckon'd to be one Hundred and seven Pleasure-Houses, within and about this Settlement, the *Ladies* whereof ply the Passengers at Noon-day, as publickly as the *Sollicitors* do their Clients at *Westminster*. A *Romish* Priest, who has lodged here many Years, assures me, that to his Knowledge, the *Societies* for the Reformation of Manners, have taken  
more

more Pains, and expended as large Sums to reclaim this new *Sodom*, as would have fitted out a Force sufficient to have conquer'd the *Spanish West-Indies*.

'Twas about the Time of the *Bubbles*, that the Inhabitants had a very scurvy Trick put upon them by a crafty *Projector*, who gave them Assurances his Interest was so powerful Above, that he doubted not but to be able to procure certain Privileges and Immunities for the Place; and perhaps to set them upon a Foot with their Sisters of *Venice* and *Leghorn*. The Lane and adjacent Alleys grew big with the Project, and a large Subscription was carried on to render it effectual: Fortunate for the Fellow; at this very Crisis, the *Bill for the better Preservation of the Game of the Kingdom*, &c. happen'd to be depending in Parliament; whereupon nothing less than the Destruction of the whole Neighbourhood was apprehended thro' the Joy that was shewn on this Occasion, by the incessant Bonfires and Illuminations, the poor Wretches being taught to believe, that this was an Act calculated in their Favour: But the Fellow finding it impossible to carry on the Jest any longer, and having gain'd about 100 l. by his Scheme, he mov'd off to *Yorkshire*.

HERE all our Ladies of Quality of tolerable Beauty, and our celebrated *Toasts*, &c. are represented by Proxy without their Knowledge, from the *Ortelan Dutchess*, even down to the famous black *Toy-Woman* in the City. I heard of a *Frenchman* once boasting in a publick Company at *Paris*, of the Favours he had receiv'd from a certain *English Countess* in *la Rue Drury Ville Londres*, when the Lady's Brother chanc'd

chanced to be present, so that Monsieur met with a Just Chastisement for his Ignorance and Impertinence.

St. *PAUL* in *Covent-Garden*. The Vicissitude of all Human Affairs is pretty discernable in the Lives of the *Gamesters*, who patrol the *Piazza*, for about three Hours generally in an Afternoon. I have known an inauspicious Hand of Cards, or Dice, transmute a *Silver* hilted Sword into a *Brass* one, and a *Paduasoy* Suit into a plain *Duroy*. On the other Hand a Pair of second hand Shoes has often stept into a Chariot. So various and mutable are the Favours of Fortune.

THE *IRISH SOCIETY* of *Fortune Hunters*, are said to hold their quarterly Meetings in this Parish, and having obtained an Authentick Copy of their late *VOTES* and *RESOLUTIONS*, I thought that it might be of Service to the *Fair-Sex*, and others, to make it publick. The same is as Follows.

*Jovis 7 Die Januarii.*

ORDERED, That the Committee for the Affair of Heiresses do attend Captain *Mac Blunder* to Morrow Morning, at his Lodgings, at nine of the Clock, and then, and there, in the Hearing of the Family, make such honourable Mention of the said Captain's high Birth, Worth, and other Merits, as may enable him to obtain in Marriage a beautiful young Lady in the same House, of a very considerable Fortune.

A *Petition* of *James O' Vapour Esq;* was presented to the Board, and read, praying, That the  
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Persons employed by this Society, as Noblemen and Gentlemen's Footmen, be frequently dispatched in their various Liveries to his Lodgings when he is absent, and there to leave Messages, &c. to the Effect following, *viz.* *That the Earl of Hampstead prays the Felicity of a Visit from Mr. Vapour, That the Lord Loggerhead must by all Means see him that Evening at White's, on an Affair of the last Importance, That Mr. Alderman Drumskul will be at Garraway's the next Day to pay him for the five thousand Pound South-Sea Stock, or, That Lady Laycock presents him her Compliments of Joy on his carrying the Cause in Chancery*; by which Means the Petitioner will be supported in the Prosecution of an Adventure which in great Probability will turn to the Account of two thousand Pounds, one Moiety whereof, in Case of Success, he promiseth to pay into the Society's Treasury for their Use.

ORDERED, that Mr. *Vapour* be assisted with the Agents and Footmen of this Society, according to the Prayer of his Petition.

COMPLAINT being made, that — *M—ns* Esq; being a Member of this Society, and lately married to a Fortune of four thousand Pound, had absolutely refused to pay in the ten Pound *per Cent.* out of his Wife's Portion, tho' legally required so to do.

RESOLVED, that a List of the Wives of the said — *M—ns* Esq; now living in, and about the Cities of *Dublin* and *London*, be forthwith printed and published.

ORDERED, that *Dermot O' Kettle*, Footman to the Countess of *Kill-Chairman*, have Leave to commence a Suit of Love against Miss *Want-spark*,



*spark*, a six thousand Pounder, but that he prosecute the same in no other Quality than that of a Gentleman of five hundred Pounds *per Annum* in the North of England.

RESOLVED, that *Morrice Mac Bully*, in Consideration of his having paid in his Contribution Money; be at Liberty to retire to the darkeſt Parts of this Kingdom, as *Derbyſhire, Oxfordſhire,* or *Salop*, in Queſt of an Heireſs; and that he have Leave to aſſume the Title of a *Viſcount* until he be poſſeſſed of a Fortune ſuitable to his Inclinations; and then that Honour to revert again to the Society, for their farther Uſe.

THE Board being inform'd, that great Numbers of young Fellows, of the Growth of *Great Britain*, do make it their ſole Buſineſs to traduce and aſperſe the Members of this Society to all the Women of Fortune and Faſhion in the Town, to the great Reproach of their Country, and the Hindrance of their Schemes and Deſigns.

ORDERED, that the Committee for killing be armed immediately with a Commiſſion of Fire and Sword to correct the Behaviour of thoſe Gentlemen, to the End ſuch Practices may not only be checked, but entirely prevented for the future.

ORDERED, That Leave be given to Sir *James O' Shamſter* Knight, to marry a Number of Wives, not exceeding fix, that he thereby may be rendered capable of diſcharging his juſt Debts.

*Veneris 9 Die Januarii.*

ORDERED, That Leave be given to Captain *Hallaloo* to alter the Place of his Nativity from

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the County of *Tipperary*, in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, to the County of *Berks*, in the Kingdom of *England*, for sundry Reasons to himself best known.

A *Petition* of *Christopher Credulous* was presented and read, setting forth, that he the said *Christopher* had with much Difficulty obtained the pretended Widow of a Shopkeeper in the *City*, whose Fortune he did judge to be about fifteen hundred Pounds, for which he had many seeming good Authorities, and that being supported out of the publick Stock of this Society, he proceeded with the utmost Cautions, that on the 2d Day after his Marriage, to his very great Surprise and Grief, he found his Wife to be of the County of *Kerry*, and was the same Day arrested for her Debts, amounting to a thousand Pounds, and is now detain'd in the Prison of the *Poultry*, and prayeth the Society to take his hard Case into their serious Consideration.

ORDERED, That the said *Petition* do lie on the Table.

A *Petition* of *Michael Mac Taudry* of *Monmouth Street*, Salesman, was presented to the Board and read, praying he may be reimburs'd the several Sums of Money he hath expended for *Suits*, *Swords*, and other Necessaries delivered, from *December 1721* to *December 1724*.

ORDERED, That the said *Petition* be referred to the Consideration of the Committee for borrowing of Moneys, and beating of Bailiffs, that they do enquire into the Allegations thereof, and report the same with their Opinion thereupon to the Society, on *Dooms-Day* next at eleven in the Forenoon.



THE Society being informed, That Captain *Smell-Fire*, attended at the Door with a bloody Sword, in order to prove that he had slain a *Taylor* within the Verge of the Law, he was called in and examined at the Table; and the Matter appearing to be true, he was ordered to withdraw.

A Motion being made, and the Question being put, that Captain *Smell-Fire* having *fell'd his Man* is entitled to the Honours due on such Occasions.

IT passed in the Negative, the Deceased being but a *Taylor*.

A Petition of *Mary Merrytail*, late of the Hundreds of *Drury*, in the County of *Middlesex*, Spinster, was presented and read, setting forth that she the said *Mary* hath for many Years past duly paid an annual Sum to this Society, for a Safeguard to protect her in the free Exercise of her Function, that she is at present detain'd a Prisoner in *Bridewell*, destitute of all manner of Necessaries, and being restrained from her Business must inevitably perish, unless aided by this Society with *Monies* and *Testimonies* to obtain her Enlargement.

ORDERED, That the Committee for Characters do repair forthwith to the proper Magistrate, and certify for the Birth and good Behaviour of the Petitioner, and that if it be necessary Captain *Shameless* do swear himself to be her Husband lawfully married in the County of *Tyroe*, so that the Petitioner may be discharged from her Confinement.

ORDERED, That Capt. *Mac Brazen* have Leave to put himself into deep Mourning, as for the Death of a rich Relation, and that it be reported

ted with the greatest Industry, about the Neighbourhood wherein he lodgeth, by the proper Agents, that he is thereby become posselt of a plentiful Fortune, to the end he may carry on a certain Project with the greater Credit and Reputation.

RESOLVED, That the Society do immediately adjourn to the affidavit Office in *Hedge Lane*, to proceed from thence, in a Body, to the *Old Baily*, to give their Oaths for Caprain *Fits-Fury*, who stands charged on the Inquisition of the Coroner with *felling his Man*. And they adjourned accordingly.

ST. MARY in the Savoy is noted for a good old *Royal Palace*, formerly inhabited by Sovereigns, but now by Subjects. I was passing by it, as I remember, upon the first Day of a Term, and observing a Number of People assembled about a Foot Soldier and a Barrister of the Temple, (who were engaged in very high Words,) I enquired into the Occasion of the Dispute, and was informed the Case was as follows. It being Execution Day at Tyburn, and the Hackney Coaches mostly employed in transporting the Butchers Consorts thither, the Lawyer was footing it down to *Westminster*, and happened to void his Urine within a Yard or two of the Soldier's Post, who had put him under Arrest on his refusing to pay the Penalty due on such Occasions. The Barrister insisted very strenuously on the Centinel's producing the Statute in this Case made and provided, and cited several Precedents and Authorities to prove the Lawfulness of pissing against the Palaces, which he said had been practised in all Ages, and Nations,

tions; without Interruption, till this Time. The Soldier declared that the Sum in Question, which was but a poor *Sixpence*, was more his Property than the Coat on his Back, and instanced several Cases wherein it had been paid by *Captain Generals*, and added, that the Act against Mutiny and Desertion never intended that the Servants of the King and People should be liable to such mean Insults without a Compensation, and that although they were a People placed the last in the Rolls of Fortune, they stood the first in the Lists of Honour. The *Barrister* rejoined and *humbly apprehended* that by the standing Laws of the Kingdom, no Man ought to be fined, or amerced, but in a regular and judicial Way, and very fairly offered to *submit it* upon this Issue, That if the Soldier would undertake to prove the Offence not to be a lawful and necessary Occasion, in which all the free-born Subjects of *England* were to be protected, he would suffer the Consequence. After the Matter had been thus solemnly argued for near three Quarters of an Hour, the Mob called out for the *Question*, which was stated and put as follows, *viz.* Resolved, that it appears to this Assembly, that *Lawrence Litigious* of the Inner Temple Esq; stands indebted to *Leonard Lackshirt*, of the third Regiment of Guards, Gent. the Sum of one Sixpence, good and lawful Money of *Great Britain*. It passed in the Affirmative, *Yeas 17, Noes 11*. The *Lawyer* would have mov'd in Arrest of Judgment, but that was over-rul'd; and I remember he march'd off with the more Uneasiness, because he said, *It was an ill Omen to lose a Cause so early in the Term.*

NEAR this Palace, my good Friends, the Worshipful Company of Upholders rent a small Tenement. That ugly Article of the *Turn-pikes* in an *Undertaker's Bill*, would never stick hard were *Executors* and *Heirs*, but truly acquainted with the extraordinary Pains and Expence, as are generally used in the obtaining of a *Funeral*. I take the Business of a *Dead-monger* to differ little from that of a *News-Monger*, as depending in a very great Measure upon Intelligence. There is *Tom Busy*, who is a most indefatigable Man this Way, has told me, that he has, e'er now, paid as dear for his Informations as a *Foreign Minister* or a *General* of an Army. It seems their first Correspondents are the *Coachmen* and *Footmen* of the most eminent and practising Physicians, who daily deliver in a *Paper* called the *Joyful-List*, containing an Account of the Quality and Maladies of the Persons who fall under their Masters Visitation, together with an Account of the Progress of their Respective Diseases. Their Prices are as follows, viz.

	s.	d.
For the News of the first Fit } of an Apoplexy.	— 00	06
For the second Fit, ditto. — —	— 01	06
For the third and last Fit. — —	— 02	06
For a Small-Pox, if the Party } be attended by two or three } Physicians.	— 01	09
For a Cold, and the Prospect of } a Fever.	— 00	04
For a high Fever, the standing } Price all the Town over.	— 01	06
For a DEATH. — — —	05	00
		1s



If any of these can sound the Servants of the sick Person, and learn that Part of the *Will* relating to the *Funeral*, tis not at all amiss, but if it happens to be a *private Interment* the News is too bad to be reported.

THEIR other Correspondents are the *Chairmen*, who by their constant Attendance upon the greater Sort, are very useful Hands. These *Low-beel'd* Gentlemen shall watch as impatiently for the last Gasp of a Person of Quality, as a *Jew* for an Opportunity to debauch his *Maid*; and the *Porter* at the Door no sooner gives out the Word *DEAD*, than these *human Horses* are fled Express to all the *burial Offices* in Town, it being the constant Custom for every one of them to pay for the Intelligence, though they *miss the Job*. There are indeed some great Families which keep as constant to their *Flesh-Monger* as to their *Fish-Monger*. In these Cases 'tis only common to keep a *Diary* of every one's Health; but if any happens to fail of Appetite for two or three Days, and the *Asses* are ordered to attend, 'tis enough, all Hands are set to work; so that many a leaden Coffin has been making, while the Person, for whom it was designed, has been very innocently sitting at an *Opera*; and the compleat Furniture of a Funeral, even to the very Hatchment has been ready, at least, three Months before the Party has expired. Every one knows that very lately, a certain *Nobleman's* Coffin was waiting near four Hours at his Door before he was fairly deceased; and that at the Time when the late dreadful Plague was raging with great Violence in *France*, one of these carnal minded Men in the City, offered to purchase ten thousand Pound *South-Sea* Stock, for half a Year, as  
judging

judging he should be able to pay for it in that time: I remember that the same *Fellow* had like to have been laid by the Heels for insulting a Member of Parliament, for no other Reason, but because he had voted for the *Quarantine Act*.

St. CLEMENT DANES. These People have been a long time intent in repairing and beautifying their Temple. It has prov'd as all Undertakings of this Kind generally do, an *expensive* piece of Work: However, the Inhabitants are accommodated with a little more *Musick* for their Money than heretofore; tho' it has necessarily occasioned a rise on the Price of Land in the Church-yard, a Grave there going now at between twelve and fourteen Years Purchase; wherefore People have begun to grow more frugal of their Health than formerly; for since the Fall of *South-Sea*, 'tis not every one that can afford to rot at this unreasonable Rate. The *Apothecaries*, *Vintners*, and *Physicians*, already feel the ill Effects of it; and I'm inform'd, many of them are about to leave the Place, if this Matter be not timely remedied; for, as they say, no one can tell where it may end.

THIS Parish is deem'd an excellent Air for breeding *Attorneys* in. A busy Practitioner's Wife was the other Day brought to Bed of a thumping Boy with a Cawl over his Face, exactly in the form of a *Capias*: Now, as the Child has a certain Protection from *Drowning*, I would advise his Parents, for the Lad's sake, to bring him up rather to the Sea than the Law, for People can never be too cautious. The chief Subject of all Conversation here turns upon *Verdicts*, *Costs*, *Damages*, *Writs of Enquiry*, &c. And some Years ago,



ago, an Attorney in low Circumstances, was charitably entertained at Dinner four or five times a Week by an honest Tradesman, who at last brought in a Bill upon his Benefactor, charging an *Attendance* for every Meal, and I remember sued and recovered too : So that it was from this Accident came the Proverb, *He has eat me out of House and Home.*

THE Matrons *Needh--m* and *Silves--r*, may boast as they please of their Judgment in *Disb--ing out* a Girl, but it is the Opinion of most of the ingenious Gentlemen of the Inns of Court, that the Lady *Ribban* excels all the Pretenders to this Art. The *luscious Disb--ille* this Gentlewoman appears in every Morning, has not only drawn great Custom to her own Shop, but to all the Coffee-Houses in her Neighbourhood ; and I have been told of several impotent Letchers who have sent their Mistresses to copy this famous Pyramid of *Paint, Lace, and Cambrick, &c.*

I know it will be expected, that now I am in this Neighbourhood, some Notice should be taken of Mr. *William* the faithful Messenger of the Muses, who is constantly ministring to the Publick the Advices *Foreign* and *Domestick* ; and is early every Morning ranging his Papers in excellent Order, and with great Justice, according to their respective Credit and Seniority, upon the Counter. The *Daily Courant* he posts first, as superior in Credit to any other, excepting the *Gazette*, for the Affairs abroad. After him, the *Daily Journal*, and *Daily Post*, as the two Chief Intelligencers at Home. The *Post-Boy* takes the Right-hand of the *Flying-Post* and *Post-man* ; and the *Weekly-Journals*, and *Pamphlets* are piled in the Window on one side. The paying no Stamp  

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Duties

Duties are not permitted to herd among the Friends to the Revenue.

THERE was formerly a good Custom of *Saddling the Spit* in this Parish, which for Reasons well known at *Westminster*, is now laid aside ; so that *Wives*, whose Husbands are *Sea-faring* Persons, or who are otherwise absent from them, have lodg'd here ever since very quietly.

St. *DUNSTANS* in the *West*. Here are also too many in this Parish, who would appear more polite than their Neighbours, by breeding up their Sons, nay, and sometimes their Daughters too, to *practise* the *Law* ; but I am sorry to say, that this, consider'd as a *Profession*, is attended with Consequences very fatal to Families ; for tho' our *Seats* of *Justice* are fill'd with Men, from whom we may expect all that is Equal and Just ; yet by the *Turns* and *Managements* of the inferior Practitioners in those Courts, our Approach to them is made so *intricate* and *expensive*, that they who are oblig'd to sue for their own in the common Forms, are frequently *Undone*, even tho' they obtain the *Verdict* in their *Favour*. There are many other Proceedings in the *Law*, of a like Nature, which, if truly consider'd, have, methinks, but an *odd* Appearance, in a Country of so much boasted Liberty. But if while we censure, what seems thus unreasonable in the Method of some of our *Law Practices*, it should be alledg'd, that notwithstanding all this, it has produced many Great and Useful Men : I allow it ; only it may be worth considering, whether we have not more Reason to be *ashamed* we *stand in need of them*, than to boast that *we have them*. And I will ask this plain Question, If that  
would

would not be esteem'd a *happier Climate* where there is no need of *Physicians*, than where the *Uncertainty*, or *Unwholsomeness* of the Air has encourag'd so many of them to settle, that you are sure of finding a good one in every Street?

*Ram-Alley*, one of the *Temple Avenues*, a Place which I'm told, is the Night Scene of a good deal of obscure Gallantry among Serjeants Clerks, and Judges Footmen; a Market, where *Half-pence* pass in current Payment; and Abundance of dirty Love is hung out to Sale *ready made*, and at reasonable Rates. I remember a pleasant Adventure which happen'd to the Master of a Vessel (newly come ashore) in the Latitude of this Place, who *spy'd* and *came up* with a pretty young Wench, rigg'd in a round-ear'd Cap and Housewife's Apron, and in her Hand a large Key, as of an outer Door; equipt with these Tokens of a Servant in the Neighbourhood, he began to give *Chase*, and endeavour'd to *speake with her*: The poor Innocent kept off, as if she had been really afraid, but stood in with the *Trade Wind* for *Bolt and Tun Creek*; the Captain crowded all his Sail, and *standing directly after her*, he soon came to an *Anchor a-thwart her Hawse*. But the next Day was oblig'd to have his *Poop examin'd* by an able Surgeon, who upon viewing his Case, pronounced it as handsom a *P——x* as he had observ'd throughout the whole Course of his Practice.

THESE fair Traders, who appear by Moonlight, and retail by Inch of Candle, range themselves in due Order, at most of the Doors and Bulks of *this*, and of the other principal Streets in the City; for when other Trades-People think fit to finish and shut their Shops in,

their Business begins, and they commonly keep open till Twelve and One in the Morning. One of these indefatigable Damsels tells me, she pays a certain cruel Shopkeeper in *Fleet-street* half a Crown a Night for her Stand, prompt Payment, besides certain *Perquisites*; and that this poor Drudge is many times made *Wife* and *Widow* Twenty-five times in an Evening, so fickle and unstable the Minds of both Man and Woman-kind.

St. *ANDREW* in *Holbourn*. This Parish has rendered its Name famous to all succeeding Ages, for retaining the Ashes of that great and wonderful Woman Mrs. *Sarah Salisb--y*. As it is a Debt due to the Memory of illustrious Personages, to have the great Actions of their Lives pointed out to the World, I shall, as far as my Abilities will suffer me, do Justice to the Memory of this defunct Gentlewoman. I should impose on my Readers, were I to attempt so much as to give an Account of her Genealogy. Whether she could boast a Lineage ennobled by illustrious Ancestors, or whether she was an Honour to her obscure Predecessors is a Point not yet determin'd by Historians, the Place of her Nativity, like the Immortal *Homer's* of old, is a Matter of Dispute: But be these Matters as they may, thus much I will venture to affirm, had not a long Fit of Sickness confin'd her to her Appartment, and weaken'd her Constitution, this great Genius might have brought to a greater Perfection, some Assemblies of this Town, and added a Lustre to Mr. *Heidegger's* Entertainments. She was a remarkable Instance to what a height of Reputation the *free Use of natural Parts* will carry People, for 'tis confidently asserted by some, she never



ver made any great Improvements by Reading : It is generally agreed likewise, she was not over scrupulously vertuous. As to her Principles in Politicks, 'tis thought she mostly favour'd the *Pretender* and his Adherents, and had concerted several Schemes, which might have endanger'd the Constitution, had not her ill State of Health and long Confinement, frustrated her Design. To comprize her Character, in short, she was not proud, but affable, and *easy of Access*, a Well-wisher to the Church and the Doctor, but not ostentatious of Religion ; a great Encourager of the Liberal Sciences, and a Lover of Mankind and *Champagne*. She died in the tenth Year of the present Reign, leaving Issue by the Town, one Son, and one Daughter.

I am sorry to hear, that towards *Redlyon-street*, &c. so many pretty Gentlewomen are retain'd for the Use and behalf of too many Gentlemen in this great Protestant City and Suburbs ; and that a certain Lady not forty Miles from *Lamb's-Conduit*, that lodges now and then, in the Arms of Squire *Meagre*, (who thought his *Monopoly* as secure as the Regalia in the *Tower*) should lately be surpriz'd in Bed between two *Grays-Inn Attornies* at her *Mantua Makers* : But, as the Thing has been hush'd up, and the Lady still keeps her Keeper, I desire the Story may go no further.

THE People here have a great Sense of the Blessings towards the close of *Queen Anne's* Reign, and believe that the Miscarriage of the *South-Sea* Scheme, together with all the Calamities that have befallen *Europe*, as well as these Islands in particular, for ten Years past, are just Judgments inflicted for the cruel Persecution of *Dr. Sach-l*.

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St. *BRIDES*, or, if you please, St. *BRIDGET*. Within this Precinct is garrison'd that Martial Host the *Blue Broomstick Militia*. These Gentlemen (for such they esteem themselves on all Holy-days) have, by their Deeds of Arms, render'd themselves very terrible in the Eye of the Town, and are said to have perform'd more heroick Actions than even some of our Trained-Bands. I have ever look'd upon it as a great Misfortune to *Britain*, that they could never be brought into the true Interest of their Country. About the time as *Pepper's* Dragoons breakfasted at *Oxford*, they were wont to make frequent Excursions about this Metropolis; and one Night they obtain'd in *Cheap-side* a compleat Victory over their mortal and avowed Enemies the *Muggites*; but I remember it had like to have proved a dear Business to the Nation, for the next Day there was a most prodigious Run upon the *Bank*, all sorts of *Stock* declin'd in the *Alley*; a general Decay of publick Credit ensu'd; and at *Ch—d's* and *Sund—d's* Coffee-Houses, they cry'd out a *Reformation*: The Parish Bells and the *Weekly Journals* rang with the Particulars of the Action, and certain Benefic'd Priests were wavering, and under great Doubts and Difficulties: In short, all seem'd to be given up for lost, till the *Muggites* return'd the Visit, and repaid them in their own Coin, and so brought Things back into their former Channel. However, it was by some sage Heads thought necessary to put an expeditious End to these Troubles; and accordingly a *Treaty* was set on Foot at the end of *Salisbury-Court*, which produced the desired Effect.

NOT

NOT many Years since, the Gentleman's Gentleman came with the History of King *John*, and threaten'd to subvert the antient Constitution of the Suburbs of this Parish, and setting forth in his Manifesto's, cramm'd with many specious Pretences (an Artifice ever made use of by Usurpers,) That the Inhabitants were to enjoy greater Privileges than any of their Predecessors: These Declarations had gain'd so far upon People, that a Revolt was apprehended, when the prudent Church-wardens of that Time, made use of no other Means than an able Barber, who had acquir'd a good Reputation in Shaving the Gentleman; having receiv'd from him one or two kind Visits, the Parish has since heard no more of his Pretensions.

THE united Parishes of St. *ANNE BLACK-FRTERS* and St. *ANDREW WARDROBE*, are the Source of all our publick *Intelligences*; 'tis from this Quarter issues *Mist's Journal* and *Applebee's Journal*, the *British Journal*, the *Daily Journal*, and the *Daily Post*, cum multis aliis. And I have been inform'd, that one half of the Parishioners are wholly employ'd in collecting Furniture for these *Papers*, as *Births*, *Marriages*, *Deaths*, and *Miscarriages*, &c. and have their Salaries and Perquisites in proportion to their respective Services. Tho' the Proprietors and Managers of these *Papers*, live in the utmost Contempt and Envy of one another, yet it would be as difficult to procure a Purse of Gold from a *Poet*, or a Blush from a *Bawd*, as to engage them in a publick Quarrel or Controversy with each other, Experience having inform'd them how prejudicial this Practice has been to the antient *News-Writers*;  
for

for it was a Method formerly, when a young Writer started up, for the old *ones* to snarl at him, and insult him with the Epithets of *Scoundrel*, *Liar*, *Jacobite*, &c. till the World has begun to make enquiry into the Merits of the Dispute, which has often carried the Sale of the *Defendant's* Paper to a far greater height than the *Plaintiff's*: The seeming Quarrel formerly between *Mist's Journal* and the *Flying-Post*, was secretly concerted between themselves, in order to decoy the Eyes of all the *Parties* on both their Papers; and the Project succeeded beyond all Expectation, for I have been told, that the former narrowly miss'd getting an Estate by it. There are such Contrarieties in the Business of this Species of People, that seem to me amazing; a *Book*, or *Pamphlet*, order'd to be burnt by the Hands of the Common Hangman, is the most agreeable News that can come to the Proprietors of the Copy; and I have been inform'd, that if this Favour was to be purchas'd, there is not a *Bookseller* in *London*, but would willingly give an handsom Sum to have all the Books in his Shop fired in the same manner. A Warrant now and then from the Secretary's Office, is a singular Advantage to a young Beginner; and a Pamphlet has been many times brought to the *Ninth Edition*, for the *Printer's* only taking Coach in Company of a *Messenger*, to the *Cockpit*, when perhaps six single ones had not been fairly sold off, but for this Assistance. Nay, 'tis become a common Artifice amongst the Venders of Books and Pamphlets, when an Impression lies dead upon their Hands, to report, that an Army of Messengers is in pursuit of the Author; when, by the Means of this Fal-lacy, the Book shall, according to the Phrase, *begin to Drop*.



ONE of the Weekly *Journalists*, whose Name was expected every Week to appear in the *Gazette* under a *WHEREAS*, luckily chanced to be sent for to *Whitehall* to answer a single Question; it proved the Making of the Man, for he soon retrieved his Affairs, and lives now in extraordinary Circumstances in the City.

VALETUDINARY People I would advise to take the Air three or four times a Week, or oftner, if their Business will permit, in *Black-Fryers*, soon after twelve at Noon, where I am fully persuaded, that a true View of those wretched Emblems of Henger, the Journeymen *Tailors*, will recover the most depraved Appetite sooner than the best Stomack that can be devised. I have heard of many Consumptives, who by a due Exercise in this manner, about *Bedford-bury* and *Vinegar-yard*, have been brought from an Egg to a Chicken a Day; and I am satisfy'd, if either *Ch—yne* or *Stroth—r* were acquainted with this Place, they would both agree in this System.

St. *MARTIN* at *LUDGATE* is indeed but a small Parish, but has the greatest Resort of Ladies of any other in the City, because 'tis here the fair Sex are furnish'd with Materials to make their Conquests. There are many young Ladies, and what is worse, old Ladies, within the Bills of Mortality, that every *Saturday*, while their Houses are cleaning, take a Tour to this Parish, for no other Reason in the World, but because they can't tell how else to dispose of themselves; they swim into the Shops by Shoals, not to buy, but to hear the *Silks* rustle, and to fill up their own Leisure, by putting the smart *Journeymen* into full Employment; so that they tumble over  
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the Goods and deafen the young Fellows with a round of Questions, till they have found nothing in the Shop to *please their Fancy*, as they call it: Then they toss themselves again into their Coaches, and drive on the *Persecution* to the Terror and Disturbance of most of the Toy and Tea Shops in the City.

I have heard by an Acquaintance, who is a Quaker, and therefore I believe would scarce lye, That the Detachment of the Foot-Guards which marches thro' the City to the Tower, has prov'd a very great Mischief to the young *Mercers* and *Druggists*; the gay Coat and graceful Air of the leading Officer, together with the martial Beat of the Drum, having occasion'd many a menacing Letter into the Country, whereby a *poor* tender Mother has often been obliged to compound for a *Lieutenancy*, or a Pair of Colours, to preserve her Son from a Consumption. This makes it no Wonder, to see a young Fellow the one Day performing the good Offices of a Citizen behind a Counter, and the next Day those of a Commander. An elderly Mercer intimated to me, that unless an Expedient could be found out to put a stop to this Evil, there would, in a little time, be scarce a sufficient Number of young Fellows left to carry on the Business.

AT a short Distance hence is a little Ecclesiastic Office, where Marriages are purchas'd at a much more reasonable Rate than in the Parochial Churches, which occasions sometimes a great Hurry of Coupling-work upon the Hands of the Doctors; but in a Dearth of Business they have their Agents out on a Sabbath as far as *Mile-end* and the other extreme Parts of the Town, soliciting of Weddings, and many a young Male and Fe-

male

male, who have been only out to take an innocent Walk in the Fields, have been decoy'd down, and have enter'd into the holy State, when neither of them, perhaps, had the least thought of Matrimony an Hour before. Tho' in this Place Credit is generally at a low Ebb, yet upon the Return of a Fleet from the *Baltick*, or the *Mediterranean*, the Word only of one of these illegitimate Divines, will go for half the *Geneva* and *fine Ale* in the *Rules*; and tho' they are thought to lie out of the way of Preferment, I have known many of them in my Time, who have been advanc'd to a *higher Post*.

St. *SEPULCHRES* Parish is noted for a large *Monastery*, to which great Numbers resort daily, and live retired from the World, insomuch that every six Months they are forced to send away divers on their Pilgrimage to *Parts* beyond the Seas, to make Room for other recluse Persons. 'Tis said, that a certain Gentleman in this Parish, holds his Life by no other Tenor, than by presenting to the Gallows a *V--ll--n* within ten Degrees of himself once a Month; and tho' this has proved to him a Work of vast Difficulty, he has made shift to preserve himself many Years. I one Day happen'd into the Company of the Beadle or Bell-man of this Parish, in whose Custody, I was inform'd, the Admonition, or Verses, said to the condemn'd *Malefactor's* the Night before Execution, are safely reposit'd; and hearing they had made a great Noise in the World, I desir'd the Favour of a Copy; the Fellow leering up in my Face, cries, *I'll warrant you are some Printer*, and thereupon ask'd me twenty Guinea's. I will now appeal to any one, whether a Man of such

a Conscience, should be permitted to perform any Part of the ministerial Office either in Verse or Prose : But as this extravagant Demand served to heighten my Curiosity, I was resolved to come at them at all Rates, and soon after found Means to corrupt an Intimate of this Gentleman's with half a quatern of *Geneva*, and so obtain'd a true Copy : Upon Examination, I found *Chaucer*, *Spencer*, nor *Dryden*, had hardly a Hand in the Composition ; and I had much Reason to suspect *Ben. Johnson*, as having heard, that he had the Misfortune to pass under *Newgate* at a Time when the Bell-man was repeating them, which had like to have cost him his Life, for he not only refunded his Supper, but kept his Bed for a Week afterward. The Vulgar, who flock from all Parts of the Town to be instructed in this Doctrine of the Bell, take it to be more essential to the Salvation of the poor Souls, than any Method that can be propos'd by the *Ordinary* of the Place, or even the whole *Convoc—n* ; and, if at the time when this Ceremony is performing, an Ambassador from the greatest Potentate in *Europe* was making his Publick Entry, or an Express with the News of the landing of 40000 Men to invade the Kingdom, was passing to Court this Way, they must both wait till this more important Affair is over. I was once prevail'd on to visit a Gentleman of the *Muses*, who was under Sentence of Death for Burglary and Felony, in breaking and entering a *Cook's-Shop* in the Night-time ; it happen'd to be the Day before Execution ; I therefore recommended my Friend to a due Consideration of his dreadful Estate, and took notice to him of what a short Space there stood between him and Eternity. The poor Gentleman



tleman (I shall never forget him) very seriously replied, The Hour of his Dissolution was much nearer than I apprehended, for he said, he should never be able to survive past Eleven at Night, the time the Bell-man was to say his Verses.

*CHRIST-CHURCH* Parish is remarkable for a famous Hospital, in which many hundreds of Youths are annually educated for Trades, and other for the Sea, tho' now and then a *CHILD* has happen'd to go elsewhere, that has had excellent Precepts imbib'd into him in this Place.

THIS Parish did formerly afford a Residence to my old Friend *Paul Lorrain* of pious Memory, who was many Years *Ordinary* of *Newgate*, but he could never attain to the *Chaplainship* of that Prison. What is remarkable of this Gentleman was, that during his Life, he was the Object of almost every Body's Scorn; and I could never hear of above two People who spoke favourably of him, and those were the *Printer* and *Publisher* of his Dying Speech Papers; nay, the very Criminals whom he attended to Execution, were wont to make wry Faces at him at the Tree; and one more harden'd than the rest, made an attempt upon his Pocket just before he was going to be turn'd off. But when Mr. *Lorrain* had escap'd to his Grave, he was universally regretted, and in particular by his most inveterate Enemies, who then had recourse to the old Proverb, *When the old one's gone, &c.* I know that Mr. *Lorrain* drew the Malice of many Thousands upon him, because he could never be brought to join in Opinion with many other Clergymen, that the Murder of King *Charles* the First, could never be sufficiently atoned for, but by a general  
Massacre

Massacre of the Dissenters : And tho' the poor Man has many times been in Danger of having his Brains knock'd out by his Orthodox Neighbours of *Newgate-Market* for it, he was never able to conquer this Weakness.

As I am now got so near to *Little-Britain*, I must beg leave to inform the Inhabitants, that the same is a Part of His Majesty's Dominions, because certain People there do now and then act as if they harbour'd another Opinion.

St. *GREGORY*, St. *AUSTIN*, and St. *FAITH*, were by our pious Ancestors discreetly join'd, or rather jumbled together, being seated on a Tract of the most religious Earth in the Kingdom, as *Pater-Noster-Row*, *Ave-Mary-Lane*, *Amen-Corner*, &c. Here is likewise a religious *Ambulatory* for the *Whetters* and *Wenchers*, where 'tis whimsical enough to behold the People under one Roof, divided into two Parties, the one pursuing their *Diversions*, and the other their *Devotions*.

Y one Sabbath-day happen'd to fall in with the latter Party, where amidst the Crowd I observ'd a Person of the most sanctified Aspect I ever had laid my Eyes on ; the Man made the Responses with the utmost Zeal and Regularity, and while the *Girls*, their Eyes, were fix'd upon the *Choiristers*, his were nailed to the Cieling : To speak the Truth of my Heart, I concluded him no better than a Spy from *Salter's-Hall*. This profound Picture of Penitence, did I long behold with a religious Admiration, and wish'd myself in his Case, or at least but half so Orthodox a Christian. I had scarce thought again than the Service ceased, the Place was gone all into Confusion,

sion, and every one searching for his *Watch* and *Snuff-box*; a Gentleman having at that Instant detected this very Person's Hand in his Pocket; and I remember when the Man was searched, they divested him of as many *Watches*, *Boxes*, &c. as would have set up any reasonable Shop-keeper.

*Pater-noster-Row* produces Nymphs that are agreeable enough: It is said, that they were formerly handsome, but the elder Ladies their Mistresses, were under a Necessity of altering the Custom, because it drew a Concourse of idle Beaus to loiter about their Shops, so that the Business of Love has been often suspended, and even divers great Weddings *postpon'd* for want of the Linnen.

Alas poor *Joseph*! the wonderful Youth is gone! this political Apprentice was acquainted with more History Sacred and Prophane, than many Noblemen, and was as well known to the Lower House of *Convoc—n*, as ever *Wh—ston*, or *Tol—nd* was; by his constant Attendance upon Clergymen and Clergy-women, he knew the Value of every Living in *Great-Britain* to a single Groat; for whenever a Dispute of this Nature has arisen between two Reverend Grey-heads, *Joe* has been call'd upon, and his Opinion has been a final Determination.

*St. GILES's without CRIPPLEGATE*. I have heard some malicious People affirm, that there are great numbers of *Jacobites* in this Parish, and being unwilling to believe so vile a Slander, I took a Mugg with the Officer that collects the Excise on Beer, Brandy, &c. who upon producing his Books demonstrated the Falsity of this Assertion, for I found that the People are no Enemies  
to

to the Revenue, and then consequently can be none to the Government ; those of the lower Sort never using Wine, unless upon some extraordinary and solemn Occasion, as a *Burial* or a *Baptism*, which has given occasion for a merry Saying amongst the *Vintners*, when a bad Pipe is upon their Hands, *viz.* *That it will serve for the Cripplegate Christenings.*

*Hackney-Coachmen, Porters*, and all sorts of *Handicrafts*, abound in this Quarter ; 'tis customary for a *Blacksmith* here, who after he has given himself a harder Exercise at his Forge for six Days together than a Gally-slave has had at his Oar for a Month, to divert himself on the Sunday with a *serious Walk*, perhaps as far as *Reading* or *Rocheſter*, to taste a Mugg of *ſpecial Two-penny*, and return the ſame Day in order to repeat his Labour the next, while other Hail Mechanics of both Sexes (whose Garments are under *Date* and *Tribulation*) more religiously keep their Beds all Day, as remembering the Sabbath was appointed for a Day of *Reſt*.

THE memorable Pamphlet call'd, *The Benefit of Farting*, was written (as I have been informed) by an *Haberdaſher* of *Pork* and *Peaſe* in *Foreſtreet*. Neither is this Pariſh leſs noted for producing other learned and eminent People, as *Aſtrologers* and *Phyſicians* ; tho' I have heard of ſuch Practices and Experiments as have been uſed by the Gentlemen of the *Faculty* on the Inhabitants, as would, were they to be enquir'd into, be juſtifiable in no other *Hall* than that of the *Ap thecaries*.

WE ſay, that when Nature is deficient in one Part, ſhe makes amends in another ; and the Obſervation is no where ſo true as in the *Beggars* of this



Womb *Legg-less*, and of Consequence a Dependant upon the next *Turner's Shop* for Deputy-Supporters, she ever supplies him with much *Brawn* for a natural *Cushion*, as knowing him more inclinable to the *Sedentary* than the *Peripatetick* Philosophy. If she puts out his *Eyes*, she enlarges the Sense of *Feeling*, and makes him an acute Distinguisher between *Brass* and *Silver*. If she chops off his *Arms*, she in return stretches the *Wind-pipe*, dilates the *Thorax*, and makes him capable of talking longer, and more to the Purpose than a *Female Scold*: For what says the honest *Beggar* upon his *Truss of Straw* in *Moor-Fields* of the Passengers, *I will have some of their Money without stirring one Foot from this Spot of Earth*. Accordingly he tunes his Voice, raises his Pipe to a *Pitty-drawing Pitch*, and a Shower of Copper falls into his Lap, which he converts at the next *Brandy-shop* into true *Sterling*.

St. *JAMES* at *CLERKENWELL* is, a large and well-stock'd Parish: The Inhabitants, generally speaking, speak as *plain English* as those of St. *Botolph* at *Billingsgate*: The Women for the most part, are observed to wear *black* and *blue Eyes*, with *swell'd Faces*; which has been suggested by the Learned, to be owing to their too great Volubility of Speech, and the Courtesy of their well-bred Husbands, who are generally *Butchers*, and treat them in the same tender and respectful manner as they do their Cattle.

IN this Parish there are two *Colleges*, in which are taught several Sciences, as the *Kid Laye*, the *File Laye*, &c. and the *Students* by their proficiency in these Arts, often render themselves very famous to Posterity; and much Industry has been

us'd lately to collect *Memoirs* and *Narratives* of the Lives of the *Defunct Fellows*, being Histories that are greatly admired now-a-days. Vast Numbers that have been here educated, are now on their Travels beyond Sea, and the Custom being to tarry *seven* or *fourteen* Years, they usually return largely furnish'd with foreign Knowledge.

THIS Precinct extends to the reputable Village called *Black Mary's Hole*, and comprehends *Pissing-Alley* and *Codpiece-Court*; and 'tis credibly reported, that there is no want of that sort of Work in this Parish.

St. BENNET and St. PETER PAUL'S-WHARF. 'Tis pretended that these People are more *civiliz'd* than the rest of the Citizens, yet their Courtesy does not appear much to Strangers: A Person of a *dejected Aspect* cannot pass thro' 'em but he shall be teaz'd almost to Death to know whether he wants to protest against some ill-contriv'd *Will*. A Person with a pleasant Countenance is in as bad a Condition, as falling under a suspicion of a *Probation*, or a *Licence*. And I have seen a Gentlewoman in a *blue Apron* with a Vein of the same Colour a-cross her Nose, who has had her Cloaths tore from off her Back to be assisted with *Processes* against her *foul-mouth'd* Neighbours.

ALL-HALLOWS in Bread-street, and St. JOHN the Evangelist. I have heard that the Popes have been elected with much less Notice and Ceremony than these People were formerly wont to choose their *Lecturers*. 'Tis not many Years since the Office of *Beadle* became vacant, when the Heats and Animosities that arose upon

upon the Election of another, were of so warm and contentious a Nature, that the Peace of not only the City, but the whole Kingdom was endangered; and after the greatest Struggle that was ever known in *London*, between the Court and Country Parties (for so they termed each other) the Point was carried by the former.

St. *MICHAEL* and St. *ALBAN* in *Woodstreet*, and St. *MILDRED* in the *Poultry*. As the People of this Island are more tenacious of their *Liberties* than any other in the whole Christian World, I have often been amazed at the Conduct of the Inhabitants in these Places for their notorious *Violations* and *Infringements* of these valuable Privileges, which hath cost this Nation such Quantities of Blood and Treasure; for to my certain Knowledge, there are vast Numbers of *British* Subjects whose Liberties are now actually restrained; and there are many other of his Majesty's Liege People who are kept from walking the Streets, and appearing on their lawful Occasions, lest they be assaulted and put in Fear; so precarious are the Liberties of the People made by the good Folks of these Parishes.

St. *LAWRENCE* Jewry, St. *KATHERINE* Coleman-street, St. *MARY* in Aldermanbury, and St. *MICHAEL BASSISHAW*. Amidst these Parishes stands the *Guild-Hall* of this great Metropolis, wherein is contain'd many Courts of Justice; but there is one in particular which seems to have the fairest Title to that Character; this is called the *Court of Conscience*, where the Judges (poor Gentlemen) often endanger their Hearing. I have known a Cause for *Nine-pence half-penny* carried

on more rigorously between Plaintiff and Defendant, than a Suit in *Chancery* for 10000 *l.* This Court has a greater Power than most of the Superior Courts, as having a Power of committing in Execution, and from which no Appeal lieth. The bare mention of this Judicature to an Officer of either *Compter* is enough. And I have hear'd it said, that at the time of the *Preston* Rebellion, these inoffensive Gentlemen did offer to raise a Troop of Horse for the Service of their Country, in case this Court might be abolished.

I have not said a Word of the numerous Band of *Petticoat Pensioners*, who are at this time in the City begetting young Merchants and Goldsmiths; and I can no longer forbear acquainting my sober Friends, the Citizens, that they often pay extravagant Wages to Journeymen that never stood behind their Counters, nor set Foot within their Ware-houses: They may think it hard to pay an honest Porter Half a Crown, to lug about a Brown Musket for them when the Trained Bands march; but let me tell them, they give a much greater Gratuity to a certain sort of *Swissers*, who come from *Covent-Garden* and the *Inns of Court*, and carry Arms in their stead on another Occasion.

St. *MARY le BOW*, St. *PANCRAS Soper-lane*, and *ALL-HALLOWS Honey-lane*, have remained in strict Union with one another ever since the 23d of King *Charles* the Second. There is a certain *Draper* of my Acquaintance who has cohabited with them many Years, and who has had all the natural and improv'd Advantages a Tradesman can wish for, being born in a sharp Air,  
learn'd



learn'd to lie as soon as he could speak, and to Cheat before he went alone, and after that, educated seven Years behind one of the ancientest Copiers in the City, any reasonable Person would believe that such a Man should be Proof against the Wiles of a poor weak Woman; but what I am going to relate is a too well known Truth to all his Neighbours. 'Twas upon a certain Day, that a Lady very richly accouter'd, made a period in a Hackney Coach at the Shop of this sharp Citizen, where after she had spent the Afternoon in turning over his whole Stock, and exclaiming against his *frightful Prices*, and after a thousand Doubtings and Hesitations, fix'd her Determination on Hollands and Cambricks, to the Value of above 100 *l.* and then with a pretty Apology for Ladies not gadding abroad with such a Sum in their Pockets, invites the Citizen to her Husband's House for his Payment, and names a very eminent Surgeon near *Covent-Garden*: The Shopkeeper and his Customer arrive together in a Hack at the Door; Madam with a very free Air to the Servants, orders them to shew him into a Parlour, while herself goes up Stairs to their Master, and to him she addresses herself as follows, *viz.* " Dear Doctor, I am the  
 " unfortunate Wife of Mr.——, a *Linen Draper*  
 " in *Cheapside*, who by Conversation with lewd  
 " Women, has contracted a Venereal Disease,  
 " and is below waiting for the best Advice you  
 " are able to assist him with, for which no Re-  
 " compence shall be wanting, &c." The Doctor invites the Draper up into his Confessional; in the mean time Madam mov'd off with her Booty, and she has not been seen, known, or heard of to this very Day.

HERE

Here is a certain Lady I know this Way, that labours to seem chaste, and the Appearance of Modesty costs her great Pains; if you look at her she frowns, as tho' she thought the Glance of your Eye the Prelude to a Rape; and if you but touch her Hand, tho' to help her to her Coach, or over a Channel, she starts from you, and rebukes you with a strangeness of Aspect, as if you carried Temptation and Unchastity on your Fingers-ends. When you mention a pair of Stockings, she shifts herself in her Seat; and at the name of a Petticoat she leaves the Room: But with all this Shiness, Frost, and Virtue, which are inseparable from her at Home and at Visits, Coll. *Strong-back*, when he meets her at her Miliners in *Leaden-hall Street*, finds her as willing to strip at Noon-day, as a Guardian is to cheat his Ward, or a Bride to be put to Bed. Her Husband, who is an honest tippling Cit, but never serv'd an Apprentiship to Wit or Plotting, cries that his Wife is so damn'd rigid to every thing which wears a Beard, that he cannot humour his Curiosity, by tasting the Pleasure or Pain of Jealousy. At this Madam grunts and shakes her Head, and reproves him for his *beastly Talk*; adding, that were he married to some *vile Woman*, he would soon be cur'd of his Longing. Hereupon, the quiet *Christian* tells her with a Kiss, that she's a *little Fool*, and knows nothing but Ignorance and Virtue.

St. *ANTHONY*, vurgarly St. *ANTHOLIN*, St. *JOHN BAPTIST* by *Dowgate*. As Industry has been the Foundation of the greatest Part of the Wealth acquired in this most opulent and populous City, some of the largest Estates have been

been raised from the least and meanest Vocations. 'Tis within the Memory of Man, when a Gentlewoman, who retail'd Pippins in *Stocks-Market*, took it into her Head to be Interr'd in State from one of the publick Halls of this City. Our News-paper but the other Day, rated a deceas'd *Rag-Merchant* at 40000 *l.* And not many Years since, a *Tinderbox-maker* arriv'd at the Honour of Knighthood: Nay, there is a certain *Flea-catcher* in this Ward, who to my certain Knowledge, is capable of making his Daughter a 10000 *l.* Fortune; and 'tis reported, that a *Sc—* Nobleman has an *itching* Inclination for the Lady.

BESIDES the publick Companies of Traders established by Patents, Charters, &c. there are many other private Companics, who have not, as yet, been admitted on the *Livery*; this I take to be the Case of the *Fire-makers*, who, besides their not being Free of the City, I suppose it was the Reason they were forced to exercise their Art and Mystery the last Year in the out-Parts, as at *Hendon* and *Sunbury*.

HERE is also a Body Corporate for cutting, burning, and otherwise defacing and spoiling all manner of wearing Apparel, and these are out in the Evenings, and at all publick Sights and Processions, with their Liquids, Powders, and other necessary Implements for this purpose. I see a Fellow seiz'd by a Constable one Night in *Cornhill* for wilfully setting a Spot on a Lady's scarlet Riding-hood, as large as a Full-Moon, and the Man being carried before a Magistrate, made an ingenuous Confession of his Employment, and declared he was retain'd by the Worshipful Company of *Scourers*, who allow'd him a Stipend of 40 *l.* a Year for such Services.

THE

THE Corporation of *Corpse-stealers*, I am told, support themselves and Families very comfortably; and that no Body should be surpriz'd, or fearful of Death at the name of such a Society, the *Resurrections* in St. Saviour's and St. Giles's Church-yards, are memorable Instances of this laudable Profession.

I must beg leave of the Worshipful the Master, Wardens, and Court of Assistants, of the Company of *False Pollers*, to inform them, that they did not act according to their Charter, when they impos'd upon his Grace's Footman at the last Election, by assuring poor *Teague*, that he was qualify'd to Poll, because he wore a *Li-very*.

THE Parishes of St. *MARY WOOLNOTH*, St. *MARY WOOLCHURCH*, St. *EDMUND the King*, and *ALL-HALLOWS* in *Lombard-street*, are by the Peasants, who furnish *Stocks-Market* with Poultry and Pot-herbs, thought to be the most wealthy of any within or without the Walls of *London*; which reminds me of an antient Proverb, much used by my Grand-Mother, viz. *That all is not Gold that glisters*: For the Inhabitants here, do make as frequent and as humble Appearances in the *London Gazette* as any of their Neighbours.

WITHIN this Precinct, to the everlasting Honour of Stock-Jobbing, stands that *Den of Thieves*, vulgarly call'd *Change-Alley*. A Foreigner told me, that when he came first into *England*, he apprehended it might be a Place appointed for the holding of religious Controversies in, on seeing such Numbers of Quakers, Jews, Priests, Turks, and Infidels assembled.

IT



IT would be a Work surpassing the Skill of humane Nature, to give a faithful *historical* Account of the Frauds and Villanies that have been transacted on this narrow-skirted tract of Earth, for these thirty Years past; tho' I'm inform'd, that an Undertaking of this Nature was lately thought on by the *Stationers* Company, but that upon due Consideration had, it was found, that the whole Kingdom did not, at that time, contain a Quantity of Paper sufficient to prosecute the Design; wherefore the Matter drop'd.

THIS Place is now pretended to excel the several *Exchanges* for Linnen and Ladies, which occasions a great Resort of *Virginity Brokers* hither. Citizens who have passed their grand Climacterick, are daily stumbling into the Shops to ogle the Nymphs thro' their Spectacles. There was one Mrs. *Lately*, formerly a *Sempstress* in this Alley, who is said to have sold her Virginity nineteen times amongst the *Jews*, and had acquir'd a handsom Fortune; but, poor Gentlewoman, was *undone* again by the unmerciful Fall of *South-Sca*.

St. *MARY ABCHURCH* is but an irreligious sort of a Title; but according to the Legend, I find it was occasion'd by an idle Hussy named *Mary*, who about the Time of *Edward* the Confessor, was Servant to a very sober and pious Family in this Parish, and by them strictly enjoyn'd to religious Duties, but never perform'd any, being perpetually *Absent* from the Church, and was caught one Day in Bed with a *Priest*, by whom she grew Pregnant, died, and was Canonized. 'Tis remarkable, that the People here are never troubled with the *Worms* or *Wind-*  
H *cholick*,

*cholick*, which is said to be owing to an excellent Powder, to be found in no other Parts of the known World.

St. *PETER* and St. *MICHAEL* in Cornhill. 'Tis said, that the Custom of drinking of Cold Tea in a Morning, was projected by an *East India* Captain in this Precinct. Oh Hard-hearted *Arrack!* many a fair Lady hast thou laid upon her Back; *other Means* and *Motives* may do it for a time, but thou overturnest her for ever. The Ladies this way pretend to be afflicted with the Vapours, and such are always drinking Tea till they grow vapourish, and then Drains till they destroy those Vapours and themselves: But they bear this Distemper not only with Contentment, but Triumph, for *it is the Mode*; a hoop'd Petticoat, a *Monkey*, and a pretty Fellow, are not more Fashionable. There's the swinging Mrs. *Armfull* in *Grace-Church-street*, who has Cheeks like a pair of Globes, and eats two pound of Pudding at a Meal, besides Roast Beef and Custard, and yet is so bewitch'd with an unnatural Love of the Spleen, that neither her Bulk, nor her Stomach, can Shame her out of it. It is not much otherwise with Miss *Biddy* her Neighbour, who romps and laughs, and leaps over Stools, and then crys, *Oh, the Vapours*. That modish Merchant's Wife near St. *Mary Axe*, must have been over Head and Ears in the Fashion, who going one Morning to the Synagogue, and perceiving a Drop at the *Rabbi's* Nose, went Home and Miscarry'd.

Mrs. *Ginger* is a very fond Wife, but very apt not to sleep a Nights, and to wonder that her Husband will not keep himself awake, and divert her; but the *Common-council-man* is not always  
in

*in the Humour*: However, Madam does not fail, by several *Arts and Motions*, to interrupt his Quiet and Snoaring, but he being in Years, loves *Rest* better than he should do, and to obtain it is grown Cunning and Spightful; for when he would avoid these *Nocturnal Hints* and *Persecutions*, he always picks a Quarrel with his Wife's Parrot, and one cross Word to that Favourite Fowl, is sure to entitle him to sleep in *Laziness* for a Fortnight together. In the beginning of *May* last, the politick old Fellow had a mind to live a single Life for some time, and to promote it, said to Madam one Day, as she was discoursing to Poll, *Damn your Parrot, she's as Hoarse as a Raven*. It was enough! —the Man had his Bed to himself all the Summer long. But I am told, he had the Goodness in the *Dog-days* to be reconciled to his Wife and the Parrot.

NEAR *Cornhill* where the famous Merchants meet,

There lives a Swain in a delightful Street;  
He's still admir'd by th' airy Neighbours round;  
For stately Person there's no Equal found;  
*Lauretto's* Charms can fairest Female wound,  
This Swain his Calling now had long forsook,  
On sweet *Miranda* cast a wistful Look:  
Her Beauties fam'd *Lauretto's* Passions rouse;  
Tho' she alas! is lately made a Spouse.  
Her youthful Charms are to a Dotard wed;  
A Miser Cit enjoys *Miranda's* Bed:  
A mere *Thersites*, but his Fortune great,  
Still keeps *Miranda* in a pompous State.  
His Name *Tomazo*; freely he bestows  
His Wealth profuse, the glit'ring Metal flows;

H 2

Gold

Gold Watch and Di'monds, Silks and *Flanders*  
Lace,

Are all *Miranda's*, and her Person Grace.

The Court she Copies, and, with pleasing Air,  
She dresses easy, and is lovely fair.

Here rich *Tomazo* no Expence he spares,

Tho' Bags of Pelf compleat his daily Cares ;

To see *Miranda* in her Splendor, gay,

His Servants Wages he denies to pay.

His Spouse inviting, is his only Joy ;

With her alone he can his Time employ.

'Tis bright *Miranda* still removes his Pains,

And with his fair One he the Horns disdains.

This is the Female whom *Lauretto* loves,

His Breast inflames, his Inclination moves ;

At Church he view'd her, oft he dogg'd her Home ;

His Eyes declare her Victim he's become.

He rambled daily, tho' till now in vain ;

No time of Pleasure had the wounded Swain :

But now full bent t' assay *Tomazo's* Fate,

He fearless knock'd at fair *Miranda's* Gate.

The beauteous Female a short Space retir'd ;

She view'd him long, and then his Charms admir'd.

She seem'd surpriz'd, but, with a Lover's Pain,

She answer'd strait the bold encount'ring Swain.

Thou unknown Youth, who art thus strangely  
rude,

To try my Virtue, at this Rate intrude,

Don't think that I, who am a wedded Dame,

Will break my Vows, t' allay thy lustful Flame ;

Thy Thoughts obscene can't reach my virtuous  
Mind :

Go to the Streets, you'll there *Belinda's* find

Will  
.. .



Will fit your Passions, and your Lust relieve;  
 Don't now expect that I shall Favours give.  
 Depart my House, thou rash presuming Swain,  
 Or I shall treat thee with a just Disdain.

*Lauretto* kneels, in moving Posture smiles;  
 A Speech he made, which soon her Heart beguiles.

Can fair *Miranda* see *Lauretto's* Flame,  
 And can she then his noble Passion blame?  
 Is so much Beauty not for me to taste?  
 Must one Man only have the sweet Repast?  
 No sure, thy Charms are left still unconfin'd;  
 Relieve *Lauretto* with a gen'rous Mind;  
 Or yield your Garters, to compleat my Fate;  
 I'll quick dispatch me to a future State.

*Miranda* strait in her fond Heart desires  
*Lauretto's* Charms, her Bosom strangely fires.  
*Tomazo* absent, she's no longer coy;  
 Her Looks confirm she wou'd the Youth enjoy.  
 With artful Leer she to the Swain reply'd,  
 And check'd the Youth, tho' still his Charms she  
 ey'd.

Don't dare my Honour at this time assay;  
 Quit strait my Presence, my Commands obey.  
 Think ye that I a marry'd Life bemoan;  
 Will risk my Honour, and a Husband's Scorn,  
 To please *Lauretto*, who's to me unknown?  
 And should I venture, then what Flesh alive  
 Could bear the Devil's Representative;  
 A strange Resemblance of some future Ail,  
 Great Horns and Head-piece, but without a  
 Tail:

A monstrous Race would to my Eyes present;  
 The Crime I doubtless should for e'er repent.

This

This kind Reply the bold *Laureto* pleas'd ;  
 He speedy answer'd, with a Bosom eas'd ;  
 Well-fated *Tomazo* doubtless is undone,  
 If from thy Loins he should not have a Son :  
 Let me officiate, and the Pleasure steal,  
 I'll give no Horn but what you shall conceal.  
 Try now my Love, defy the Dotard's Rage ;  
 You'll joyous find a Pleasure not in Age.  
*Miranda*, come now to my youthful Arms,  
 And bless *Laureto* with thy pow'rful Charms.

His fond Address now kind Reception meets ;  
 She thinks with Scorn on the detested Sheets.  
 No Answer made, she to his Arms he takes ;  
 A Female Breast strict Virtue soon forsakes.  
 He kiss'd her Lips. O Fie, *Miranda* cry'd,  
 You know 'tis lately I'm proclaim'd a Bride.  
 His Hands are busy as his active Soul ;  
 They search her Beauties o'er without controul.  
 He careless threw her on an *India* Bed ;  
 To fam'd *Miranda* he now closely laid.  
 She fondly us'd her pleasing Female Art,  
 Cry'd Nearer, nearer to my craving Heart.  
 They roll'd in Bliss, in Extacy of Love ;  
 In *Cupid's* Bands they then in Transport move.

But how the cruel *Fates* a Pleasure take  
 To mar all human Joys, and Mischief make !  
 For whilst *Laureto* with *Miranda* toy'd,  
 And ev'ry eager Sense on Bliss employ'd,  
 Alas ! *Tomazo* unexpected came,  
 The House he rais'd, he's in a dreadful Flame ;  
 His Cheeks on Fire, his Eye with Anger glows ;  
 Struggling *Laureto* from *Miranda* rose ;  
 Confus'd he takes, and on he puts his Cloaths.

*Tomazo*

*Tomazo* hasty to the Room repairs,  
 Whilst lovely *Mira* puts on all her *Airs* :  
 But Doubts and Fears possess her guilty Breast ;  
*Lauretto's* Danger had disturb'd her Rest.  
 She paus'd a while, then to *Lauretto* said,  
 How will my dearest be from hence convey'd ?  
 Beneath my Coats you there will find a Room  
 To hide you safe from fierce *Tomazo's* Doom.  
 My Parts conceal'd are to *Lauretto* known ;  
 This is no Season my Advice to shun.  
 A pleasing *Stifling* you've no Cause to fear ;  
 Besides, I'll give you some *Relief of Air*.  
 Then brisk *Lauretto* stoop'd his youthful Head,  
 Beneath her Thighs it's there with Pleasure laid ;  
 Secure he rests, of Dangers not afraid.

IF we look back in to the original State of many Things, we shall be surpriz'd to find the Improvements they have undergone, and the Grandeur they have attained from their first low beginnings. Poetry took its Rise from *Hymns* and *Proverbial Sayings* ; the Majesty of *Tragic Heroes*, which of old was confined in Waggon, now vaunts at Ease under stately Roofs : Who would imagine that the vain gaudy Creature WOMAN, that now triumphs over her Master, MAN, was once his obsequious Hand-maid, and in her primitive Nakedness, was proud to administer to his Pleasures ? No *Hoops* or *Stays* fenc'd her from his rough Embraces ; nor was she then taught to belie the strong Impulses of Nature, or esteemed it Modesty, or Virtue, to with-hold her Charms from the desiring Lover.

COQUETRY was a much more modern Vice, introduced when Altars were reared to their Worship,

ship, and those coarse homely Matrons were transformed into *Goddesses*. Farewel the Charms of Innocency, and that lovely Simplicity, with which Nature had cloath'd them. These Goddesses forgot their pristine state of Dependency ; long Services, Sighs and Protestations, were now the only Means of making Way to their Favours. Poets with florid Compliments, raised them to a Degree of Divinity, that the Gods often forsook the Heavenly Mansions to be happy in their Arms, and were ingenious in contriving the Forms to court their Mistresses. 'Twas no Wonder then, that this new-made Idol soon abandon'd their *Fig-leaves*, and were trick'd up in all the various Colours their Fancies could invent ; all that shined on *Shells* and *Rocks*, were brought from far ; half Nature labour'd for the Embellishment of their Persons ; the *Silk-worm* now Spins, the Sheep bears its Fleece, and the *Leopard* its Skin, for this Favourite of the World. Is it easy to imagine that Wars and Distractions would arise from this extravagant Adoration, and Mankind be severely punished for offering up Sacrifice to a false Deity : For Women were framed Subjects to our Wills, the Property of our Desires ; and the Drudgery of bearing Children was imposed on them by Nature. By gentle Degrees they refined to Cuckold their Husbands, and asserted Sovereignty in Domesticks ; for the Man's old *Charter, to enjoy her, and abandon her at Will*, was forfeited ; she was incorporated with him, and they were Fellow-sufferers in the Marriage Warfare. Even in those elder Times they adhered so close to the rigid Notions of the matrimonial Bond, that many Nations were embroiled in a ten Years War, to bring back a Lady that  
had



had eloped with a youthful Adulterer. This I own to be the greatest Instance of Conjugal Affection that I ever met with in Record, either Antient or Modern. The beauteous *Helen* seems to have so great a similitude in Manners with many of the *English* Women, that 'twill appear an easy Transition to come down from those *Toasts* of Antiquity, and shew by what Steps and Variations the *British* Ladies have arrived at this excessive Politeness they now enjoy, to make *Feasts*, and sit at the upper end of the Table, seems to have been the utmost Ambition of our *Great-Grandmothers*; they said their Prayers in their Closets, and seldom went to Churches and Play-Houses, and (as we of a more Libertine Age term it) *sparkled* in the Ring: The very Thoughts of *Masquerades* would have put them into a Swoon; and the Sight of *Heddiger* would have terrify'd them as much as one of their *Church-yard Spirits*: To have expos'd to every Coxcomb's View their naked Bosoms, and shew their Tassel'd Garters, would have been a Sin equal to that of *Witchcraft*: Poor insipid Creatures! they guarded round their swelling Breasts with an odious *Ruff*, which their Daughters are so kind to disclose, and good-naturedly hang out the Sign to invite the Gazer in: They never insisted on that wicked Innovation called *Pin-Money*; for they had no other Expences than what were supply'd from the Husband's Purse: To lie in separate Beds, with them, was downright *Atheism*: Their Eyes had not been taught to Roll, and were Strangers to those evil Practises used by their Daughters: No Instance then was known of such shameless Gratifications of Lust, to prefer *Hircus* to your Arms, but of Malice to the lovely *Lysander*; no, then

the Spindle and the Loom was the Education of Princess's: No obscene Plays, nor *Loves of Pluto and Proserpine*, were bespoke at the Desire of several Ladies of Quality; but now these Virtues of our elder Matrons are exploded, and counted Ill-Breeding but to know them. Your *Pin-money*, (the Parent of many Ills) at present procures Woman's whole Utenfils, *Opera's*, *Masquerades*, *a Pew in a Church*, and a *new Gown and Petticoat*. These are indeed the most general Expences in the *Pin-money* Account; but could we make a Scrutiny into the Conduct and Employment of that Money, we should find considerable Sums embezzelled for secret Services. But because the Catalogue of the Expences is kept with the greatest privacy; and notwithstanding all the Pains I have taken to inspect them, could never obtain that Favour; I would therefore suggest to my Readers what I apprehend to be the most Modish Articles in that Account.

IMPRIMIS. Paid for my Share in the general Contribution, for the Support of Mr. *Hed-g---r*, 10 *l.*—10 *s.* Presented *Sonesini* with a Ring, for Singing so charmingly in the last new *Opera*, Value 10 *l.* A very unthrifty way of laying out Money on a Man, who has no Power of *enter-taining* but by his Voice.

PAID to Mrs. *Screenwell*, the Sum of 5 *l.*—5 *s.* for drinking a Dish of *Tea*, and the use of her Apartment.

ITEM. Gave the Maid 1 *l.*—1 *s.* for her extraordinary Trouble.

PAID

PAID 5 l. per Ann. for *Almond Paste*; *Wash-*  
*balls* being disused by all People of Fashion.

PAID for the *Princely Lotion* —

PAID *Edmund C—ll*, for good Books, 1 l.—5 s.

PAID Mrs. *Deard* for sundry *Italian Toys*,  
5 l. — 5 s.

THESE Things, with many others, which at present do not occur to me, may not improbably be conjectured to swell out the *Pin-money Account* of several of our *City* as well as the *Court* end of the *Town Ladies*. What Boldness then must the Man be endued with, who would venture on one of these fashionable *Belles* for his *Household Wife*, and chuse such a Mate to go Hand-in-hand through the Difficulties of this Life: For these Gentlewomen I am speaking of, find no other Use generally in a Husband, than to give them an Opportunity of acting their Designs with a better Grace. Nor will he find his Interest in marrying a Lady of a better Fortune than his Estate required, if she is thus *politely Educated*: More Expences than he could possibly imagine in the simplicity of Celibacy, will crowd in upon him; besides the never-failing Incumbrance of a *Family Physician*, and a *Family Divine*, many unforeseen Charges will arise, which the married Man alone can tell.

THEREFORE I shall beg leave to stop here, and end my Observations with some Lines of Mr. *Dryden's* Translation of the Sixth Satyr of *Juvenal*.

Yet

*Yet thou, they say, for Marriage dost provide.*

*Is this an Age to Buckle with a Bride?*

*A sober Man, like thee, to change his Life!*

*What Fury wou'd possess thee with a Wife?*

*Ar't thou of ev'ry other Death bereft?*

*No Knife, no Rats-bane, no kind Halter left!*

*Is there no City Bridge from whence to leap?*

**F I N I S.**

